

Remarks

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are requested.

The specification and abstract have been reviewed and revised to make a number of editorial revisions. A substitute specification and abstract have been prepared and are submitted herewith. No new matter has been added. Enclosed is a marked-up copy of the specification and abstract indicating the changes incorporated therein.

A replacement Figure 7 is enclosed herewith to add the label "63" thereto. No new matter has been added by the addition of this label to Figure 7.

Figures 5-8 have been objected to as being in improper dependent form. Claims 5-8 have been amended so as place them into proper independent form to address this objection. As a result, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 3 and 7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Figure 12 of the present specification (APA).

Claims 1, 2 and 4 have been indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Further, due to the lack of a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 or 35 U.S.C. §103, claims 5, 6 and 8 also appear to contain allowable subject matter.

Claims 3 and 7 have been amended so as to further distinguish the present invention from the disclosure relied upon in the above-mentioned rejection by reciting that the portion of the input wiring extending from the connection point with the first capacitor to the connection point with the resistor is parallel to and in a vicinity of the grounding wiring. This limitation is supported at least by page 30, line 16 – page 31, line 6 and Figure 7.

Further, claims 1-8 have been amended to make a number of editorial revisions. These revisions have been made to place the claims in better U.S. form. None of these amendments have been made to narrow the scope of protection of the claims, nor to address issues related to patentability and therefore, these amendments should not be construed as limiting the scope of equivalents of the claimed features offered by the Doctrine of Equivalents.

In addition, new claims 9 and 10 have been added. The limitations of these claims are clearly supported at least by Figure 7.

The above-mentioned rejection is submitted to no longer to be applicable to claims 3 and 7 for the following reasons.

Claim 3 is patentable over APA, since claim 3 recites a signal transmission circuit including, in part, a portion of input wiring extending from a connection point with a first capacitor to a connection point with a resistor is parallel to and in a vicinity of grounding wiring. APA fails to disclose or suggest this feature of claim 3.

APA discloses a signal transmission circuit 3 including a transistor 4, a first resistor 5, a second resistor 6 and a capacitor 1 located on a printed wiring board 2. The printed wiring board 2 includes input wiring 7 connected to an input terminal section and output wiring 8 connected to a processing terminal section. A base of the transistor 4 is connected to the input wiring 7; an emitter of the transistor 4 is grounded; and a collector of the transistor 4 is connected to the output wiring 8. The first resistor 5 is connected in parallel between the input wiring 7 and the emitter of the transistor 4. The capacitor 1 is connected between the input wiring 7 and ground. The collector of the transistor 4 receives a reference voltage via the second resistor 6. (See Figure 12).

The rejection indicates that the portion of the input wiring 7 between the capacitor 1 and the resistor 5 is in the vicinity of the grounding wiring GRD. However, it is apparent from Figure 12 that the portion of the input wiring 7 between the capacitor 1 and the resistor 5 is not parallel to the grounding wiring GRD. Therefore, APA fails to disclose or suggest this feature of claim 3. As a result, APA does not disclose or suggest the present invention as recited in claim 3.

As for claim 7, it is patentable over APA for the same reasons as set forth above in support of claim 7. That is, claim 7, like claim 3, recites, in part, a portion of input wiring extending from a connection point with a first capacitor to a connection point with a resistor is parallel to and in a vicinity of grounding wiring, which feature is not disclosed or suggested by APA.

Because of the above mentioned distinctions, it is believed clear that claims 1-10 are not anticipated by APA. Furthermore, it is submitted that the distinctions are such that a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention would not have been motivated to make any combination of the references of record in such a manner as to result in, or otherwise render obvious, the present invention as recited in claims 1-10.

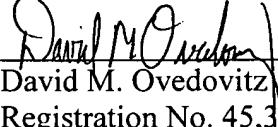
Therefore, it is submitted that claims 1-10 are clearly allowable over the prior art of record.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that there are issues remaining which must be resolved before allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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